

REMARKS

Claims 5, 17, 22 and 24-33 are pending in the present application. Claims 26-33 are herein objected to. Claims 26-33 are herein cancelled without prejudice.

Election/Restriction

Claims 26-33 are regarded as being directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed. As such, claims 26-33 are withdrawn from consideration. Applicants herein cancel claims 26-33 without prejudice. Applicants' right to file a divisional application directed at these claims is retained.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner regards claims 5, 17, 22, 24 and 25 as being allowed. Applicants herein cancel all non-allowed claims. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the application be passed on to allowance and issue.

If the Examiner deems that any further action by applicants would be desirable to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicants' undersigned attorney.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,
WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP

/RYAN B. CHIRNOMAS/

Ryan B. Chirnomas
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 56,527
Telephone: (202) 822-1100
Facsimile: (202) 822-1111

RBC/nrp